

KNOXVILLE TRI-WEEKLY WHIG

AND REBEL VENTILATOR.

VOL. I.

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No. 1.

THE TRI-WEEKLY WHIG.

W. G. BROWNLOW, EDITOR.

Knoxville, Tuesday, July 26, 1864.

No Right to Vote.

We contend, despite the amnesty oath, that an open and avowed rebel has no right to vote in Tennessee in any coming election. A traitor has ceased to be a citizen, and in joining the rebellion has become a public enemy. He has forfeited his right to vote with loyal men, by renouncing his citizenship and seeking to destroy the Government. All rebels should be subjected to a severer ordeal than that of the President's amnesty oath, before they are restored to citizenship. A scoundrel who takes this oath merely to save his property, as many of them do, and denies the validity of the oath, is a perjured villain, and not to be trusted. These are plain words, and need no interpretation. We fall back upon the old Bible doctrine, that before a repenting rebel can be trusted, he must bring forth fruits meet for repentance.

Newspaper Spongers.

The civilized world does not afford a more detestable class of men than are the newspaper spongers of the country—sponging on their neighbors for their daily or weekly papers. Among them, when they are ventilated, will be found those who keep three or four dogs to feed, and are too poor to buy a paper. Among them will be found those who drink liquor at all the groceries at 25 cents a drink, and are too poor to buy a paper. Among them are those who hoard away their money, or lend it out at penitentiary rates of interest, and can't spare the money to buy a paper. Others there are who have not time to read a paper, and only borrow to see if pork has "ris," or flour "is gone up." We don't want any of these men to borrow or subscribe for our paper—no paper can benefit such men, nor can they benefit any cause.

Condition of our Army.

Our army was never in a better condition. We are now rid of all political partizan Generals, who have so long been a curse to the Union cause, and an obstacle in the way of our success. The men now in command mean fighting. Grant, who is thundering at the gates of Petersburg and Richmond, knows no such word as fail. In the South-west Sherman, with his gallant army, which has crossed three States in pursuit of the fleeing rebels, are thundering for admittance into Atlanta, and into the better portion of Georgia, claiming it as an inheritance. From all quarters the news is cheering, and the military situation of the country never was more highly encouraging.

The Administration of Mr. Lincoln.

A great many pretended Union men are dissatisfied with the manner in which the war has been carried on. Some think Mr. Lincoln is too slow, others that he is too fast, and there are those who think he is too forgetful of the requirements of the Constitution. We are of the opinion that the day is not far distant when Mr. Lincoln's policy will be held in very high esteem. He is destined to be re-elected, as it were, by acclamation, no matter who is nominated at Chicago, or what combinations unite in opposing him. He is the strongest man in America for the office of President, and he has an equally strong man on the ticket with him for the Vice Presidency.

National Prayer Day.

The President has issued his Proclamation, in accordance with a resolution of Congress, appointing Thursday, the 4th day of August, as a day of humiliation and prayer, recommending the people to implore the kind regards, and tender compassion of the Almighty, to pray for the suppression of the rebellion, and that the rebels may lay down their arms, and peace and unity be established in all our borders. For all which, including the petition that we may kill them off in every field-fight, may God be pleased to bestow upon the people, who are loyal, the spirit of sincere and earnest supplication.

Visit their Iniquities upon Them.

All rebel sympathizers who are talking treason in the country, giving information to rebel raiders, and otherwise operating against the Government, should be arrested and sent South, whether male or female. And all rebel sympathizers living within five miles of any outrage committed by rebel guerrillas, should be arrested and sent beyond the limits of the United States. All property of loyal men, or of the Government, destroyed or stolen by rebel raiders or thieves, should be made good by seizing and appropriating the property of rebel sympathizers in the same neighborhood. And whenever an unarmed Union citizen is murdered by guerrillas, let five of the same kind of stock, confined in our prisons, be taken out and shot, near the scene of the outrage. If we have no such prisoners, let two rebel citizens of the same neighborhood be publicly executed. This will stop their murderous and villainous course, and no other policy will do it. Not an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, but five eyes for one, and five teeth for one, is the new doctrine.

Union Croakers and Fault Finders.

We have a set of men in our country claiming to be loyal, and to be for the Union and a vigorous prosecution of the war. These croakers, continually running down the Government—distrust the Government bonds and currency—always grumbling about the enormous debt being created—as if such a war could be carried on without creating a huge debt. But these peace-loving traitors fear the Government will not be able to meet this debt. They are mistaken. Our resources, our landed estates, and our untold wealth, will enable us to pay three such debts as now hang over the country. It is estimated that four hundred millions will be raised by taxation this year. Suppose we want four hundred millions more, it can be borrowed upon the people by bonds. Our credit is good, and unlimited, and European nations wish to lend us coin and bullion, because our rates of interest are double theirs. We may deem it politic to borrow their coin, so as to put down this speculation in gold. As yet we have refused every foreign capital to aid us—our own people have furnished us money.

The High Prices.

Prices have advanced more in this country during the last three years than they did in Great Britain during twelve years of the long period of the war ending in 1815. During the last eighteen months prices have advanced on an average two hundred per cent. And yet, among leading articles so advanced, very few of these are imported. This accounts for the high price of gold. The high price of produce at home prevents its exportation, thus requiring the transmission of gold abroad to pay for our purchases, so that produce runs up gold, instead of the reverse, as in days of peace and prosperity.

The McMinn County Manifesto.

From an old file of the *Athens Post*, whose base and traitorous editor is now at Camp Chase, we take the following manifesto, from which we learn that one hundred and sixteen men allowed themselves to certify to the infamous falsehood that "the present war was waged by the people of the United States Government against the people of the Government of the Confederate States." Every man, woman and child, and even negro, knows that the war was commenced by the South, that the South first beat up for troops, first fired upon the Star of the West, and then upon fort Sumter, and all because "the people of the United States Government" elected Lincoln to the Presidency.

It is passing strange that men of sense and character should have loaned their names and influence to bolster up such a batch of falsehoods as are set forth in this call. T. Nixon Van Dyke, the writer of the libel, is at Camp Chase, where he ought to remain during the war.

A CALL FOR A PUBLIC MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OF McMINN COUNTY.

Inasmuch as heretofore there has been a difference of opinion among the citizens of McMinn county upon the subject of the present war, waged by the United States Government against the people of the Government of the Confederate States, superinduced generally, if not universally, by a difference of opinion as to the causes and objects of the war, but the undersigned feeling that now there should not be, and possibly is not, but one opinion and determination among us, and that is, that the whole people of the Confederate States should resist at all hazards and to the last extremity the attempt now manifested by the United States Government to subjugate the people of the Confederate States; and further believing that it is the duty of all men, due as well to themselves as to each other and to the Government, to make a public manifestation of their feelings, so that private and public confidence may be restored and established in regard to the loyalty of all men; therefore, it is requested that the citizens of McMinn county, on the first Monday in October, 1864, to consider of the present condition of the country, and to give a public expression of their feelings and intentions in regard to the same.

T. Nixon Van Dyke, S. M. Roberts, Wm. H. Ballew, J. T. Lane, Alex. Clenge, S. McKinsey, M. F. Rice, W. H. Staples, Geo. A. Caldwell, R. M. Staples, Sam. P. Ivins, J. R. Neal, J. L. Bridges, C. L. Rice, Erastus Rowley, I. G. Barkadale, John Hoyt, Tension Lambert, Daniel Horton, Thomas Everton, A. McKeldin, W. C. Vaughan, Wm. George, Wm. D. Browder, Wm. Mayfield, Cornelius Brown, C. Staples, Hugh Crawford, Allen Boone, H. Woolf, Thos. A. Clenge, A. M. Brett, J. F. Benton, J. C. Carlock, J. W. Mann, J. T. Davis, Wesley Gaston, R. Cantrell, A. Caldwell, C. B. Newman, N. M. Crockett, Wm. Moore, J. A. Zoigler, S. L. Riggs, J. M. Alexander, H. L. Moore, Andrew McRoberts, John Hurt, Joel Triplett, Eli Dixon, W. E. Coleman, J. H. Hale, J. H. Reed, A. W. Archer, J. W. Blackwell, Charles Land, W. P. Carmack, John C. Rice, E. Brown, T. Lawson, S. W. Reed, Henry Matlock, A. A. Newman, N. M. Grubb, A. C. Robeson, W. R. Long, Q. A. Jordan, C. Blankinship, J. B. Taylor, S. F. Gettys, F. M. George, Jas. M. McMinn, John Crawford, W. G. Horton, C. Long, A. J. Nave, T. Sullivan, W. L. Lafferty, P. L. Gamble, J. R. Ware, J. C. King, John Brandon, J. C. Calhoun, W. T. Reynolds, Wm. H. Howard, D. W. Mize, C. M. Keith, Wm. Cooke, Matt M. Lowry, G. M. McCulley, W. M. Cato, S. H. Howell, J. H. Rider, Gideon Cate, J. C. Grant, J. S. Riggs, John Sweeney, J. W. McAffrey, P. L. Bryan, Wm. Rudd, Wm. L. Atlee, John Ross, S. Hexter, Charles Dickerson, William West, J. S. Bridges, Martin Crayton, John P. Peters, C. Zimmerman, L. R. Hurst, H. L. Moore, Thos. B. Mayfield, Jarrett Stow, Wm. Dorsey, Thos. N. Duckworth, M. P. Jarnagin.

The meeting was held, J. C. Carlock acting as Chairman, and Editor Ivins as

Secretary. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That it is the duty of all the citizens of the slaveholding States to encourage the most determined and persevering resistance against the tyrants and usurpers of the United States Government, and to uphold and sustain the government of the Confederate States by every means in their power, in the present war.

Resolved, That the citizens of McMinn county be requested to affix their signatures to the proceedings of this meeting as a pledge to each other and to the government of their loyalty to the Confederate States and as a means of restoring private and public confidence and fraternal feeling among us.

Rebel View of the Situation.

We have before us a long and well written article from the *Georgia Constitutional*, published at Augusta, and not far from the residence of A. H. Stevens. We give only two or three brief extracts, to show the tone and views of the leading rebel paper of Georgia, in its concern for the people of the South:

"God help them to have more judgment, for they surely do not realize the sickening sense of utter despair, the utter crushing of bright dream flowers, which is the inevitable result of those who believe in prophesies of sure success, when followed by inevitable disaster."

"The magnificent army of Sherman has, without loss and without battle, forced back one of our best armies, under a favorite General; and if he only had intended a raid, the destruction of the vast agricultural interest of the grainary of our State, is a loss which we are ill prepared to endure, and totally unprepared to retrieve. The evil is, first, the withdrawal from market of the essential food; second, the increase of population caused by refugees, which makes an increased demand on the productive capacity of the State; third, the increased prices which tend to depreciate the currency, which cannot bear another one-third repudiation. Then if it be more than a raid, and Sherman holds his front by fortification, it is an actual loss of empire."

"Therefore, with harm actually done, and with Atlanta, and the great railroad interest involved in the fate of a battle that Sherman may or may not risk; is it wise to tell our people that the invasion of our State is but a 'stupid blunder' of the enemy?"

"Let us not make ourselves a laughing stock of Europe, by winning victories on paper not yet won on the field. Let us not quicken the popular pulse at home, with dreams and prophesies of glorious victory, for no expected evil harms half so much, as the blood that leaps forth in the ecstasy of triumph, ebbing back in sick convulsion upon the disappointed heart."

The same article let out the fact that the English and French journals have been paid for their eulogies on the South. The writer says:

"When we grow happy on paper over half a State lost, and a Capital not yet saved, let us look through the windows of the blockade, and see with European eyes how we do look. We do not mean to form our hopes upon what the paid journals of England and France write for pecuniary recompense."

A Southern Methodist Church.

W. T. Smithson, the banker of Washington City, was sent to Sing Sing prison, and the large brick Church on Eighth street, belonging to the Southern Methodists, of which he was the head, as well as chief support, was sold to the Jews! It may seem a little anti-Christian to have a congregation of circumcised Hebrews worshipping there and denying the divinity of Jesus, but in our judgment they will as readily and as effectually promote good morals, as would a rebel Methodist preacher, praying for the success of the Confederacy, and pointing his hearers to Jeff Davis as a marvelously proper man to forgive sins!

Brig. Gen. Burbridge, of Kentucky, has been nominated and confirmed as Major General.